

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/893,265

Examiner

Isaac M Woo

Applicant(s)

CHENG ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to reponse filed on 01/27/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-25.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


JEAN M. CORNELIUS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on January 27, 2005 has been entered.

2. Claims 21-25 (newly added) are presented for examination (Claims 1-20 are canceled). New claim 21 corresponds to claim 8, rewritten in independent form including all limitations of its base claim and the intervening claim. Likewise, new claims 22-25 correspond to claims 14-17, rewritten in independent form including all limitations of their base claim and the intervening claims. Claims 8 and 14-17 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

3. This office action is in response to the amendment filed on January 27, 2005.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 21-25 are allowed.

Reason For Indicating Allowable Subject Matter

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Claims 21-22 identifies distinct feature, the computer apparatus and method for providing personalized information. The closest prior art Lynch et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,018,715) in view of Reese (U.S. Patent No. 6,374,237) discloses for providing a database comprising a plurality of contributor content records and a plurality of contributor profile records, wherein each contributor content record corresponds to a contributor profile record, and wherein the database comprises descriptor information corresponding to the contributor content records, obtaining a user profile record, obtaining a user search query, comparing the user search query with at least a portion of the descriptor information, comparing at least a portion of the user profile record with at least two contributor profile records, providing personalized information comprising contributor content records based upon the results of the comparisons. The prior arts do not address the method for the user profile record and the contributor profile plurality of corresponding data elements, and the step of comparing at least a portion of the user profile record with at least records each comprises two contributor profile records comprises the steps of: i) comparing a first data element of the user profile record with a corresponding first data element of a first contributor profile record to generate a first comparison score, ii) comparing a second data element of the user profile record with a corresponding second data element of the first contributor profile record to generate a

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second comparison score, iii) combining the generated comparison scores to calculate a first match rating between the user profile record and the first contributor profile record, iv) repeating steps (i) - (iii) using a second contributor profile record to calculate a match rating between the user profile record and the second contributor profile record, and using the calculated match ratings to provide the personalized information. Thus, Lynch et al and/or Reese fail to suggest the claimed limitation as mentioned above in combination with other limitations of the dependent claims. Claims 21-25 are allowable over the prior art for being directed to a combination of claimed element as indicated above.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Isaac M Woo whose telephone number is (571) 272-4043. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

IMW
March 17, 2005


JEAN M. CORRIELLUS
PRIMARY EXAMINER